

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 01940

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR NATO
SUBJECT: NATO CONSULTATIONS CONCERNING POTENTIAL
ESTABLISHMENT OF POST OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL
FOR LOGISTICS

REF: STATE 5903, 100503Z JAN 78
SUMMARY. IN CONFORMITY WITH INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL AND SUB-
SEQUENT COMMUNICATIONS, WE HAVE TERMINATED FIRST ROUND OF
DISCUSSIONS TO DETERMINE LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS IN ACHIEV-
ING REORGANIZATIONS SUGGESTED BY WASHINGTON AGENCIES.
END SUMMARY.

1. ON 10 FEBRUARY DCM AND MG RICHARD BOWMAN, OSD/ISA,
BROACHED THE SUBJECT OF AN ASYG FOR LOGISTICS WITH ASYG
(DEFENSE PLANNING AND POLICY) MUMFORD.
2. MUMFORD WAS ENTHUSIASTIC OVER THE CONCEPT OF CREAT-
ING A NEW ASYG POST TO HANDLE LOGISTICS MATTERS AND
COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN
DISCUSSING SUCH AN IDEA WITH ASYG (DEFENSE SUPPORT) WALSH
IN CONNECTION WITH THE FORTHCOMING REPLACEMENT OF AIR
MARSHAL MACBRIEN, DIRECTOR OF NATO'S OFFICE OF COUNCIL
OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS. MUMFORD WENT ON TO
SUGGEST THE TRANSFER OF INFRASTRUCTURE RESPONSIBILITIES
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TO THE NEW ASYG FROM WALSH'S DIRECTORATE. MUMFORD ALSO
AGREED TO GIVE UP TO THE NEW ASYG ALL OF HIS "CRISIS
MANAGEMENT" RESPONSIBILITIES.

3. ON 13 FEBRUARY, DCM DISCUSSED THE CONCEPT WITH
WALSH, WHO CONFIRMED THAT HE DESIRED A TRANSFER OF THE
CONSUMER LOGISTICS ELEMENTS FROM HIS DIVISION. HE WAS

NOT, HOWEVER, ENTHUSIASTIC OVER A TRANSFER OF THE INFRA-STRUCTURE DIRECTORATE WHICH CONSTITUTES A LARGE PART OF HIS PERSONNEL AND WHICH HAS NEVER REQUIRED MUCH MANAGEMENT BY THE ASYG. GIVEN THE FACT THAT INFRASTRUCTURE FUNCTIONED AS WELL AS ANYTHING IN NATO, HE BELIEVED IT SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE.

4. DCM NEXT DISCUSSED ISSUE WITH CANADIAN PERM REP HARDY. HARDY THOUGHT IDEA HAD MERIT AND BELIEVED OTTAWA WOULD SUPPORT IT. HOWEVER, HE RATHER SURPRISINGLY SAID HE DID NOT SEE ANY REASON TO ASSUME A CANADIAN SHOULD EITHER REPLACE MACBRIEN OR ASPIRE TO THE NEW ASYG POSITION. HE FELT A EUROPEAN MIGHT BE BETTER SUITED FOR THE NEW POSITION AND THAT CANADA'S INTEREST IN A HIGH-LEVEL NATO JOB COULD BE BETTER ACCOMMODATED BY HAVING A CANADIAN REPLACE, FOR EXAMPLE, EITHER THE CURRENT ASYG FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS (DR. E. F. JUNG, A GERMAN), OR THE CURRENT ASYG FOR SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS (DR. M. N. OZDAS, A TURK). HARDY CONCLUDED BY NOTING CANADA REMAINED CONCERNED BOTH ABOUT THE MANNER IN WHICH SENIOR NATO OFFICIALS ARE CHOSEN, AND THE NEED TO RECONSIDER THE DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH POSITIONS AMONG MEMBER STATES. HE SAID CANADA WAS IN FACT PLANNING TO PUT FORWARD A PAPER ON THIS SUBJECT VERY SOON.

5. MISSION COMMENT: THE IDEA OF CREATION OF A NEW ASYG
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POST HAS CLEARLY BEEN UNDER QUIET CONSIDERATION FOR SOME TIME BY ALL THOSE WE CONTACTED. GIVEN THE SUPPORT FOR THE IDEA AMONG THE TWO HIGH NATO OFFICIALS MOST INVOLVED, WE BELIEVE CHANCES OF SUCCESS ARE GOOD. WE ARE NOT THOROUGHLY CLEAR ON EXACTLY THE CONTENT OF THE NEW DIVISION, BUT BELIEVE THAT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ASYG FOR DEFENSE SUPPORT AND THOSE OF THE NEW ASYG SHOULD INCLUDE BETWEEN THEM COUNCIL OPERATIONS, CRISIS MANAGEMENT, LOGISTICS, INFRASTRUCTURE, COMMUNICATIONS, ARMAMENTS, STANDARDIZATION, INTEROPERABILITY, AND COMMAND/CONTROL SYSTEMS; THE EXACT SPLIT OUT BETWEEN THE STAFF DIVISIONS BEING SUBJECT TO LATER STUDY. WE UNDERSTAND THE TF9 REPORT TO EWG WILL RECOMMEND CREATION OF AN "ASYG FOR CONSUMER LOGISTICS" WHICH WOULD APPEAR TO PROVIDE THE OPENING FOR NEGOTIATIONS IN THE EWG PRIOR TO A FINAL REPORT TO THE SUMMIT. WALSH INDICATED THAT TF8 COULD ENDORSE THE NEED FOR HIS DIRECTORATE TO BE DIVESTED OF CONSUMER LOGISTICS ACTIVITIES IN ORDER TO ALLOW GREATER CONCENTRATION ON STANDARDIZATION, INTEROPERABILITY, AND OTHER CNAD EFFORTS. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED STATE 46646 (230127Z FEB 78) WHICH PROVIDES INITIAL GUIDANCE ON THE SPLIT OF FUNCTIONS, AND WE WILL MAKE THE POINTS CONTAINED

THEREIN DURING NEGOTIATIONS. WE WILL REPORT DEVELOPMENTS
AS THEY OCCUR. END COMMENT. GLITMAN

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